

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 SCI-06 OIC-04 INT-08 FEA-02

COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 STR-08 ACDA-19 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 SAM-01 DRC-01 NEA-11 IO-14 AEC-11 AECE-00 /198 W

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O P 081539Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6704

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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DEPT. FOR SCI: PASS ALSO T/IEP

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, TECH, FR, ENRG

SUBJECT: ENERGY: ELYSEE ADVISER ON ENERGY R&D AND POLICYMAKING

REF: A) PARIS 2917; B) PARIS 2665; C) PARIS A-71, FEB. 1, 1974;

D) PARIS 9024; E) EC BRUSSELS 5798

SUMMARY: FRENCH ARE NOW REVIEWING POSSIBLE AREAS FOR INTERNATIONAL

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COOPERATION AS PART OF GENERAL REVIEW OF OVERALL ENERGY REASEARCH

AND DEVELOPMENT PORGRAM. ELYSEE DECISION IS SCHEDULED FOR MARCH. OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT FRENCH ARE PRESENTLY UNLIKELY TO COME UP WITH MAJOR NEW ENERGY RESEARCH PROGRAM OF SUBSTANTIAL INTEREST TO US FOR COOPERATION IN SHORT TERM. ELYSEE TECHNICAL ADVISER EXPRESSED HOPE THAT US WOULD ALLOW LICENSING IN US OF FRENCH FAST BREEDER POWER REACTORS, NOW UNDER DEVELOPMENT, AND THAT US WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT INTERFERE WITH EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT OF EURODIF ENRICHMENT PLANT (SIC). HE CONCLUDED CONVERSTION WITH SCION WITH AN EXPLANATION OF FRENCH ENERGY POLICIES WHICH PROBABLY REFLECTS ELYSEE THINKING, NAMELY THAT US SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT TWO NATIONS FACE HIGHLY DIFFERENT ENERGY SITUATIONS NECESSITATING DIFFERENT POLICY

RESOURCES. WHILE THE US, UK AND FRG HAVE LARGE POTENTIAL ENERGY RESOURCES, HE SAID THE FRENCH MUST PROCEED ON ASSUMPTION OF CONTINUING RELIANCE ON MIDDLE EAST OIL FOR FORESEEABLE FUTURE. END SUMMARY.

1. SCICON CALLED ON ELYSEE TECHNICAL ADVISER ESAMBERT (BIO REF A PARA 4B) TO ASK ABOUT PRIME MINISTER MESSMER STATEMENT LAST WEEK, PRESUMABLY RELATING TO FEBRUARY 11 EMERGY CONFERENCE, THAT QUOTE IN A NUMBER OF DOMAINS LIKE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH, THERE IS MATERIAL FOR COOPERATION ESPECIALLY WITH US EN QUOTE (REF B). IN ADDITION, SCICON MET TWICE WITH BAILLY DU BOIS, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF DGRST FOR SCIENC AND TECHNOLOGY AND FORMER ELYSEE SCIENCE ADVISER UNDER DE GAULLE, TO DISCUSS R & D COOPERATION AT BAILLY DE BOIS'S INTIATIVE BAILLY DU BOIS WAS NAMED TODAY AS MEMBER FRENCH DELEGATION TO WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE.

2. ENERGY R & D COOPERATION. ESAMBERT AND BAILLY DU BXC SAID THAT FRENCH SCIENTIFIC LEADERS ARE NOW DISCUSSING SPECIFIC ENERGY-RELATED AREAS FOR POSSIBLE COOPERATION. FOLLOWING MEETINGS TO BE HELD THIS WEEK, DGRST DIRECTOR HUBERT CURIEN WILL PRESENT RECOMMENDATIONS TO ENERGY CHIEF BLANCARD WHEREUPON THE ELYSEE WILL TAKE FINAL DECISIONS IN MARCH.

3. ACCORDING TO BAILLY DU BOIS, THE PRESSING FRENCH ENERGY R& D NEED IS FOR SHORT-TERM ANSWERS TO PRESENT ENERGY SITUATION. THIS MEANS CONCENTRATION ON DEVELOPMENT (NOT RESEARCH PER SE) OF MORE EFFICIENT MEANS TO UTILIZE NERGY. NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENTS, ALREADY WELL IN TRAIN, ARE FOR NID- TO LONG-TERM. OTHER AREAS LIKE SOLAR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND GEOTHERMAL ARE CONSIDERED BY FRENCH OF SECONDARY IMPORT- ANCE AND IN AMY EVENT TOO LONG-RANGE TO BE USEFUL FOR PARESENT SITUATION. DEVELOPMENT OF DEEP OFF-SHORE DRILLING TECHNIQUE WILL BE WELL SUPPORTED BUT RESULT ARE AT BEST NEAR MID-TERM. DESPITE PRESENT FRENCH-US DISAGREEMENTS ON PETROLEUM SUPPLY POLICIES, BAILLY DU BOIS BELIEVES THAT R& D COOPERATION IS STILL VERY FEASIBLE AND DESIRABLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH MESSMER'S STATEMENT. THIS STATEMENT, HE ADDED, WAS PREPARED BY HUBERT CURIEN. ESAMBERT

AGREED WITH SCICON SUGGESTION THAT OTHER POTENTIAL AREAS FOR COOPERATION INCLUDE SOLAR ENERGY, PARTICULARLY RESIDENCE HEATING AND THE FRENCH SOLAR FURNACE, GEOTHERMAL APPLICATIONS, AND PREVENTION AND CLEAN-UP OF OIL SPILLS.

4. BOTH HAD SOMETHING TO SAY ON US - FRENCH NUCLEAR ENERGY RELATIONS. ESAMBERT OPINED THAT FRENCH WOULD LIKE THE US TO PERMIT THE FRENCH FAST BREEDER REACTOR (ANALYSED IN REF C ) TO BE LICENSED IN US AND ALLOW REPEAT ALLOW THE FRENCH TO DEVELOP WHOLLY EUROPEAN DIFFUSION ENRICHMENT PLANT. HE WAS UNDER DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT US PARTIES ARE TRYING TO UNDERCUT EURODIF ENRICHMENT PROJECT. SCICON REPLIED THAT RATHER THAN TRYING TO UNDERCUT EURODIF ENRICHMENT PROJECT, US HAD IN DECEMBER REPEATED ITS OFFER TO DISCUSS COOPERATION WITH EUROPEANS. RE FASTBREEDERS, SCICON SAID THAT US HAS STRONG MULTI-PRONGED BREEDER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AIMED AT MEETING REQUIREMENTS IN POST-1985 TIME FRAME AND THEREFORE FRENCH VERSION WOULD INVITABLY MEET HEALTHY COMPETITION IN US, AS WELL AS STRINGENT SAFETY REQUIREMENTS ALSO NECESSARY FOR US BREEDER REACTORS. ON ENRICHMENT, BAILLY DU BOIS SAID CEA ADMINISTRATOR ANDRE GIRAUD HAD FIRMLY MADE UP HIS MIND THAT EURODIF WILL BE AN ALL-FRENCH TECHNOLOGY PROJECT, THIS BEING IN PART A MEANS OF  
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SS-20 SAM-01 DRC-01 NEA-11 IO-14 AEC-11 AECE-00 /198 W

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O R 081625Z FEB 74  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6705  
INFO AMEMBASSY BERN  
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7. INTERNATIONAL ENERGY POLICY: ESAMBERT, WHO HAS IN PAST BEEN MOST COOPERATIVE IN FURTHERING SUCH SCIENCE PROJECTS OF HIGH INTEREST TO US AS CLANDESTINE HEROIN LABORATORY DETECTION TECHNOLOGY, PRESENTED BRIEF ON FRENCH ENERGY POLICY. HE SAID THAT THE US MUST UNDERSTAND THAT FRENCH ENERGY PROBLEM IS OF WHOLLY DIFFERENT CHARACTER AND ON ENTIRELY DIFFERENT SCALE THAN THAT OF THE US. CONSEQUENTLY, FRENCH POLICIES CANNOT BE THE SAME AS US POLICIES. HE CONTINUED THAT IN PAINFUL CONTRAST TO THE US AND IN A FEW YEARS TO THE UK AND FRG WITH THEIR PETROLEUM AND COAL POTENTIALS, FRANCE HAS NO MEANINGFUL ENERGY RESOURCES FOR FUTURE EXCEPT SOME URANIUM  
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ORE. THEREFORE FRENCH, LIKE ITALIANS AND JAPANESE, CANNOT AVOID HEAVY DEPENDENCE ON MIDDLE EAST PETROLEUM FOR MANY YEARS. THE FRENCH, HE CLAIMED, ARE THUS FORCED TO WORK WITH THE ARABS. ESAMBERT REPEATED THAT THE US MUST UNDERSTAND THE FRENCH ENERGY SITUATION WHEN LOOKING AT FRENCH POLICIES AND ACTIONS. FOR EXAMPLE, SALE OF ARMAMENTS, REFINERIES AND PETROCHEMICAL PLANTS TO THE ARABS IS, HE SAID, THE ONLY WAY FRENCH HAVE OF OFFSETTING CAPITAL FLOWS TO THE ARAB COUNTRIES FOR OIL. FRENCH MUST SELL PETROCHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY TO MIDDLE EAST EVEN THOUGH THIS WILL EVENTUALLY BUILD UP SEVERE COMPETITION TO IMPORTANT FRENCH CHEMICAL AND FERTILIZER INDUSTRIES. SCICON POINTED OUT THE ADVANTAGES OF US APPROACH WHICH ESAMBERT RECEIVED WITH LITTLE COMMENT.

8. COMMENT: IN MAKING HIS CASE, ESAMBERT DID NOT ADDRESS HIMSELF TO OTHER ELEMENTS OF FRANCE'S PRESENT ENERGY POLICY, E.G. GOF RESISTANCE TO AMERICAN INITIATIVES TOWARD EUROPE, FRENCH POLITICAL INTEREST IN PLAYING LARGER MEDITERRANEAN AND ME ROLE, ETC., WHICH WE BELIEVE PLAY IMPORTANT ROLE IN GOF DECISIONS. IT DOES, HOWEVER, REFLECT BASIC GOF THINKING ON ENERGY RESOURCE ISSUE.  
IRWIN

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## Message Attributes

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